



PIERCE COUNTY FIRE COMMISSIONERS' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES August 22, 2024

In Person at PCDEM 3580 Pacific Ave, Tacoma and Zoom

CALL TO ORDER

President Kadow called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. According to the sign in sheet there were 22 people in attendance.

FLAG SALUTE and THANK YOU TO HOST

President Kadow welcomed everyone to the meeting and led the flag salute.

GUEST SPEAKER:

Katie Arthur and John Holdsworth from PCDEM on Preparedness.

Katie is the outreach coordinator for PCDEM here to present on preparedness. PowerPoint presentation given (see attached copy).

Emergency vs Disaster. 20 identified hazards in Pierce County. Over half of them have happened in the last 5 years.

What should we be most prepared for?

- Earthquake. Predicted to have an earthquake 9.0 or larger and to last 5 minutes. International impact.
- Mt. Rainier – active volcano. Ashfall is small shards of glass and not water soluble. Lahar ice and snow flash melt and fall naturally down riverways and impacts cities. Can be up to 100 feet thick. There have been 8 large lahars in the last 5700 years. Information from USGS.
- Wildfires – Example is Sumner Bonney Lake fire.
- Severe Weather

Emergency Preparedness – make a plan, build a kit, help each other.

- Communication Plan – top 5 most important contact phone numbers, important to include an out of state contact.
- Reunification Plan – home location and a remote location meet up spot.
- Evacuation Plan – know your routes and evacuation levels.
- Shelter in place
- Exercise your plan

Personal Preparedness

- Build a kit – go-kit (under the bed), Car-go-kit 7-14 days prepared. 1 gallon of water per person per day. Hot water tank, back of your toilet, bladders to fill in the bathtub or fill the bathtub, life straw that filters water. Shared an example of items to have in kit.

PC Alert! Opt in list for emergency alerts.

PCDEMOutreach@piercecounitywa.gov Front Desk: 253.798.6595

Thanked Katie for her presentation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA and TREASURER'S REPORT

President Kadow asked if there were any changes to the agenda. It was moved by Commissioner Casebolt and seconded by Commissioner Mitchell to approve the agenda as presented and Treasurer's Report (see copy included with the agenda) as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

MINUTES OF July 25, 2024, MEETING

Commissioner Casebolt moved and Commissioner Holm seconded to approve the minutes as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

SGT. AT ARMS – NAME BADGES

N/A

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

REGULAR REPORTS:

a) Regional Representative Report – Jon Linboe

Reported meeting was in July. Data breach from Commissioner health and welfare trust. Working on forming a committee to support smaller agencies to attend conferences, seminars, etc. Region 9 built a new station like a pole barn that cost around 60 grand. Mason County District 12 fixed their corruption issue. Still working on separating the Fire Marshal from the State Patrol. Feasibility study. Decided to run for PC Council and has made it into the general election.

b) Legal - Eric Quinn

Not sure how many have paid chaplaincy programs. You will want to talk to legal regarding how that is structured – what can and can't be said. Something to be aware of.

President Kadow asked about legal to have a Christmas party and have a Commissioner put in for their compensation/per diem. Some Districts do and some don't. Eric stated it is up to the individual districts. The law has changed. Counsels against it as it is a slippery slope. There is no law against it though. If you are conducting business then entitled to a stipend. Where you do something on behalf of the District? What is the purpose of the event?

Argued in front of Superior court on federally recognized Indian tribe entitled to service without a contract. Answer hasn't been fully answered. If not in your boundaries have to have a contract.

c) SouthSound 911 – Debbie Grady

The Board of Directors met yesterday and passed the 2025 budget. Approved 2 million dollars to go into the radio communications reserve fund, it will then have 9 million dollars in it. For infrastructure necessary to get to a single system. No decision

made on how that money will be spent. Also, at the request of the Fire Chiefs approved a fire analytics position to be a liaison to fire agencies. Help make sure statistically are seeing what the need to see from SS911. Fire Chiefs reached out today to be involved in development of recruitment of that position to include selection.

President Kadow stated Tacoma is going to put the shop spotter system in and will that affect SS911 at all. Will be able to work with.

Commissioner Dannat had a citizen ask if she's at work and has a house fire, how would she be contacted? Debbie stated they have a link where people can build a profile.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

a) Legislative - Brandon Faust

Reported met on June 26th recap of last legislative session. TIFF bill and all of the amendments put in place were successful. Existing TIFFs that were established in Ridgefield and Walla Walla will go forward. Key topics for next session – fire marshals office being separated from state patrol – committee formed to study. Finance Committee sponsored bill for sales tax exemption for fire apparatus. Some school districts in the state have gotten sales tax exemption for school bus purchases. Homeowners insurance companies are getting aggressive in rural areas. Aware of and looking into. Meeting in September to wrap up what happened in the primaries and conference. President Kadow stated in 2020 pushed to increase the Vol FF Pension. 4 years after approved it is finally being done.

b) Fund Raising Activities - Ed Egan

Not present.

c) Annual Picnic/Potluck – MAY - Arlene Dannat

d) Annual Banquet – AUGUST - Olivia Werner / Kathy Kadow

President Kadow stated discussed at the picnic – Saturday, January 11, 2025. Contacted Tammy Lamb for her contact person at the Country Club. It might be closed the first 2 weeks of the year. Has an email in to the contact person.

e) Education - Tom Sutich / Stan Moffett

Commissioner Sutich reported he and Stan will have to sit down with Eric Quinn to talk about thoughts on what the seminar should be.

f) Awards Committee – Arlene Dannat, Olivia Werner

No report.

g) Membership – Arlene Dannat / Pat McElligott / Kathy Kadow

President Kadow, Arlene and Pat met before the picnic. Going to try to get on everybody's meeting agenda to invite to meetings and present years of service pins.

h) Programs – Olivia Werner

Reported she is still working for a speaker for September. Open for suggestions if you have any ideas, suggestions let Commissioner Werner know.

i) Sunshine - Arlene Dannat

No report.

j) Nominating – August

President Kadow asked everyone to be thinking about anyone that would like to be on the Committee. As well as anyone they'd like to nominate for President, Vice President or Director 3 positions.

k) Audit – Olivia Werner / Ed Egan – DORMANT - January

l) SS911 Committee – Pat McElligott

Commissioner Casebolt stated that Debbie covered everything.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Discuss Annual Banquet location ideas/suggestions

President Kadow asked if there was any other input. Commissioner Casebolt thought he had heard suggestion of Local 726 and having a caterer. President Kadow stated she will contact Di to get more information. One concern is the cost, but no one has come up with what is reasonable and what isn't.

B. Challenge Coin Quotes – Commissioner Napier

Not present.

NEW BUSINESS:

N/A

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Commissioner Noll from Browns Point asked approximately how many Fire Commissioners are there in Pierce County? What is the percentage that participates in these meetings? President Kadow stated we get quite a few of the Districts represented, probably about 50%. Suggested to have more information to help new Fire Commissioners do their job and be a more effective Commissioner. Commissioner Holm stated that he feels that we do that to some degree with legislative report, Eric Quinn is here and classes offered on topics that we have interest in, etc. Prior to COVID there was more attendance in person and able to network and talk before and after the meeting. Discussion followed. Commissioner Sutich stated he feels that the meetings are very informative and if someone has a question or needs information on something they just need to ask. Commissioner Jensen stated having citizen advisory committees are good to get citizens involved, etc.

Has struggled for 8 years as a Commissioner and not knowing who to reach out to for information. President Kadow stated everyone has different knowledge and experiences,

perspectives, etc. Comes from a Board of 3 and don't talk to one another outside the meeting. President Kadow thanked everyone for the discussion, it was a great topic. There's always something to learn.

Commissioner Estes – any update on the \$30,000 loss from what Enduris had presented. Commissioner Jensen stated Chief informed everyone that the PC Sheriff's are still investigating. They have not found anything yet.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business, Commissioner Holm moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Dannat seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

The meeting adjourned at 7:09 pm.

Submitted by:

Denise Ross,
Secretary/Treasurer

Website: <http://www.pcfirecommissioners.org/SitePages/Home.aspx>

2024 Meeting Schedule:

September 26, 2024 – Key Peninsula – 8911 Key Peninsula Hwy.

October 24, 2024 - NO MEETING – STATE CONFERENCE

November 21, 2024 – West Pierce Fire & Rescue

(3rd Thursday due to 4th Thursday being Thanksgiving)

December 5, 2024 – NO MEETING – ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

Follow up email from Marlena Lybarger @ SS911:

I wanted to follow-up on a question Debbie brought back following last week's Commissioners meeting regarding notification of a fire if the owner is away from home (at work, on vacation, etc.). South Sound 911 does not have a method for storing emergency contact information related to addresses. We do however, have a program for storing medical information for potential callers. Here is the link for the [Emergency Health Profile - South Sound 911](#). Using this program, the caller registers their phone number and includes pertinent medical information which would be relayed to the calltaker if a call is made from that phone number. I know this isn't quite the information the commissioners were looking for, but I wanted to be sure and provide it along with a follow-up. If you could pass this information along, it would be greatly appreciated.

Please let me know if there are any additional questions.

Thank you!

Marlena Lybarger

Executive Assistant | Clerk of the Board

253.287.4801 Desk

253.307.2799 Cell



Pierce County
Emergency Management

2024

ALL HAZARD PERSONAL PREPAREDNESS





Agenda

EMERGENCY VS DISASTER

PIERCE COUNTY HAZARDS

MAKE A PLAN

PERSONAL PREPAREDNESS

NEIGHBORHOOD PREPAREDNESS

EMERGENCY ALERTS

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AN EMERGENCY AND A DISASTER?

EMERGENCY vs DISASTER

Emergency-

- Urgent, sudden and serious event
- Manageable by local first responders



EMERGENCY vs DISASTER

Disaster-

- Event that exceeds the capability of 9-1-1 responders
- Not enough fire, police, medical, utility personnel and local resources



KNOW WHAT COULD HAPPEN

Pierce County Emergency Management is working to prepare for the 20 identified hazard listed below:

- Abandoned Mines
- Avalanche
- Civil Disturbance
- Climate Change
- Cyber Security
- Dam Failure
- Drought
- Earthquake
- Energy Emergency
- Epidemic/Pandemic
- Flooding
- Hazardous Materials
- Landslide
- Pipeline failures
- Severe Weather
- Terrorism
- Transportation Accidents
- Tsunami
- Volcanic Eruption/Lahars
- Wildland/
Interurban Wildfire

HAZARDS

KNOW PIERCE COUNTY'S RISKS

Which of these hazards could affect you?



Learn about hazards that impact you at
piercecounitywa.gov/hazards or 253-798-6595



WHAT SHOULD WE BE *MOST* PREPARED FOR?



KNOW WHAT COULD HAPPEN

Earthquake

- Cascadia Subduction Zone
- Magnitude over 6.0 occur every 30-50 years
- More than 1000 small earthquakes each year



KNOW WHAT COULD HAPPEN

Nisqually Earthquake

- Occurred in 2001
- Magnitude 6.8 lasted close to 35 seconds
- \$4 billion in damages
- 400 injuries



KNOW WHAT COULD HAPPEN

Mt. Rainier

- Active Volcano
- Designated as Very High Threat
- Volcanic Ashfall
- Pyroclastic flow
- Lahar
- Monitored by USGS

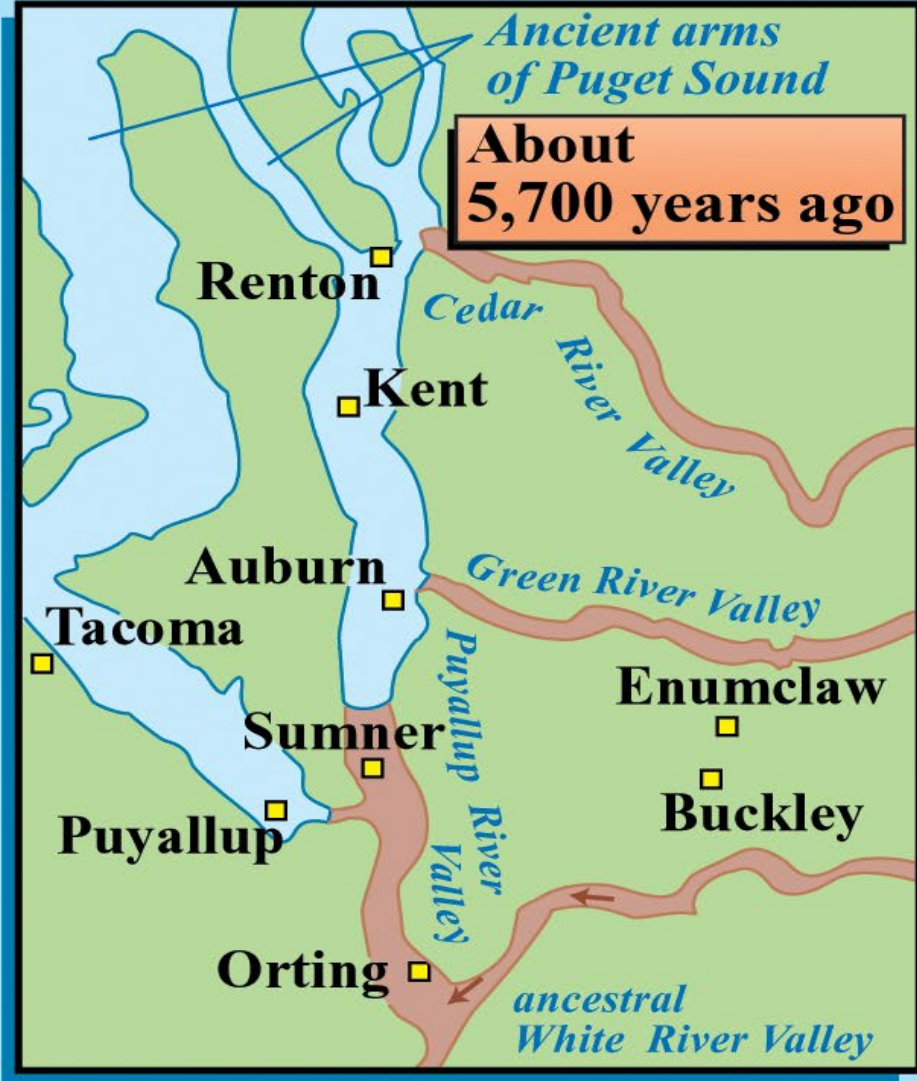


KNOW WHAT COULD HAPPEN

Mt. Rainier- Lahar

- Volcanic mudflow
- 100 feet thick
- 45-50 mph
- 1503 A.D. Electron Mudflow on Puyallup and Nisqually River





Land surface in valley bottoms
 Osceola mudflow deposit
 Locations of future communities exposed on drift plain

EXPLANATION

Volcano Hazard Zones

- Near-volcano:** lava and pyroclastic flows, thick tephra, lahars, ballistic ejecta, rock fall
- HIGH** **Lahars:** Powerful, fast moving volcanic mudflows that can occur from eruptions and landslides
- LOW** and landslides

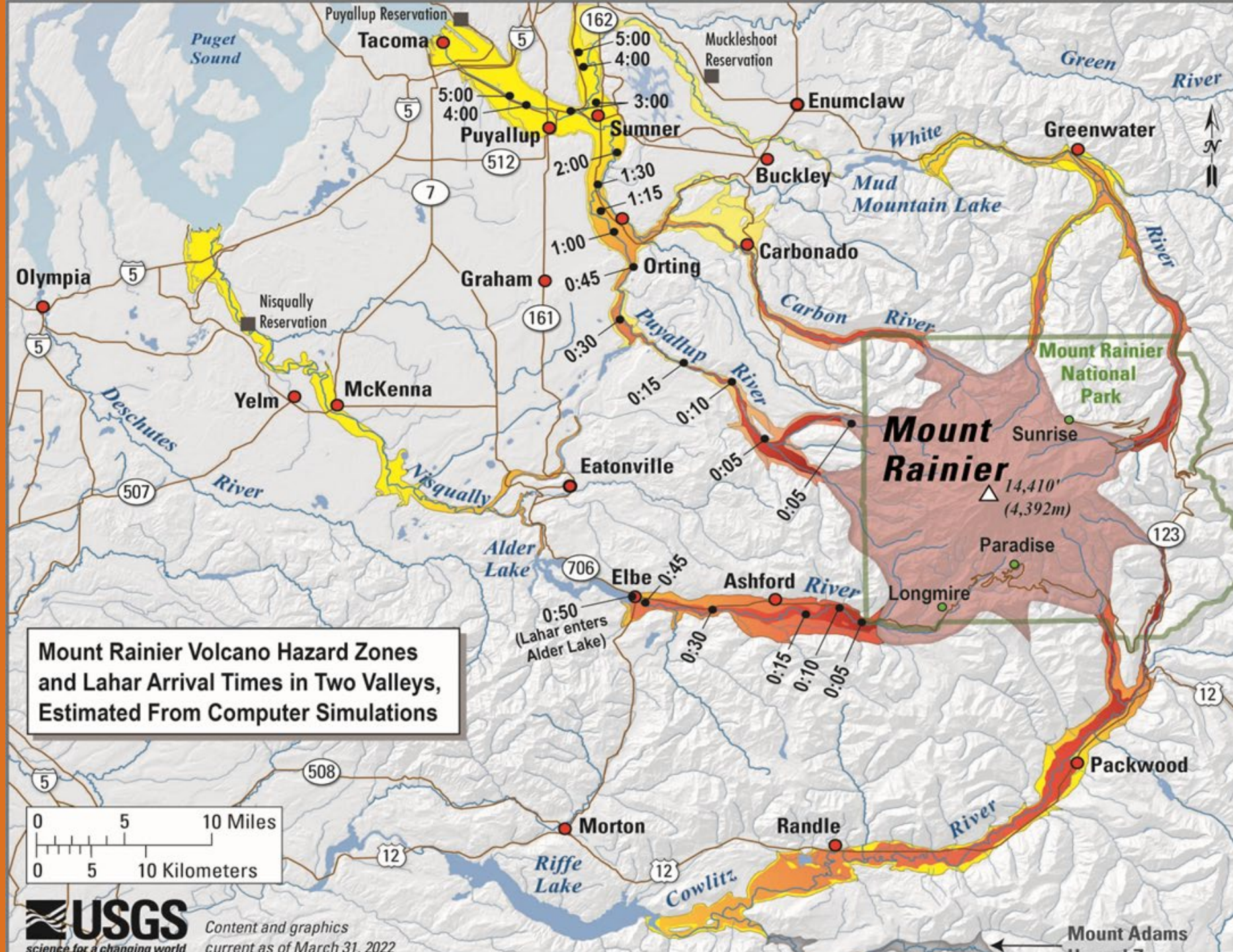
Ash from eruptions of Mount Rainier or other Cascades volcanoes can affect all areas on the map

Volcano hazard zones simplified from USGS Open-File Report 98-428, Volcano Hazards from Mount Rainier, Washington, Revised 1998.

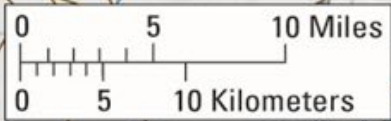
- **1:15** Estimated Lahar arrival times in **HOURS: MINUTES** after initiation

Estimated lahar (volcanic mudflow) arrival times are derived from computer simulations. The Puyallup and Nisqually River valleys are susceptible to lahars that begin as landslides on the western flank of Mount Rainier. Lahars may be larger or smaller than depicted and arrival times will vary during an actual lahar (USGS Open-File Report 2021-1118).

Lahar arrival times derived from USGS Open-File Report 2021-1118, Modeling the Dynamics of Lahars that Originate as Landslides on the West Side of Mount Rainier, Washington.



Mount Rainier Volcano Hazard Zones and Lahar Arrival Times in Two Valleys, Estimated From Computer Simulations



Content and graphics current as of March 31, 2022



KNOW WHAT COULD HAPPEN

Wildfires

- Wildland/ Urban Interface
- Dry and hot weather conditions
- Vegetative fuels
- Zone between unoccupied land and human development



KNOW WHAT COULD HAPPEN

Severe Weather

- Strong winds combined with rain, snow, sleet, hail, ice, thunder and lightning.
- Extreme Temperatures
- 44% of Power Outages
- Air Quality

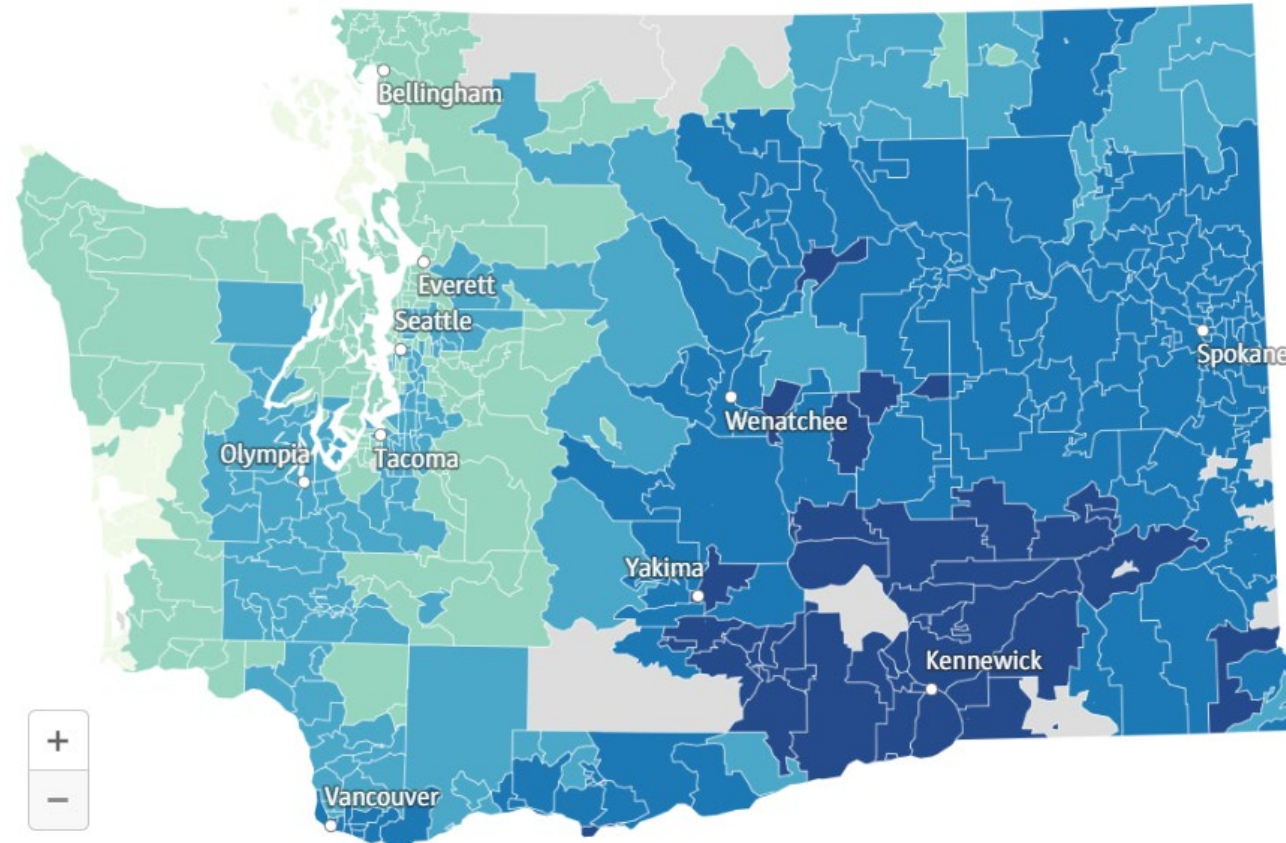


KNOW WHAT COULD HAPPEN

Severe Weather

Increase in days spent over 90 degrees, from 2023 to 2052

No change 1 - 4 days 5 - 8 days 9 - 12 days Over 12 days



Map: Lauren Flannery / The Seattle Times • Map data: © Esri, TomTom North America, Inc., United States Postal Service



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

- MAKE A PLAN
- BUILD A KIT
- **HELP EACH OTHER**



MAKE A PLAN



Communication Plan

- Emergency contact list
 - Work & School
- Out of State contact



Reunification Plan

- Home location
- Remote location



Evacuation Plan

- Know your routes
- Evacuation levels



EVACUATION LEVELS

- Pierce County and local agencies have updated our evacuation language to make it more understandable for residents.
- Language combines evacuation levels (1,2,3) and actions (ready, set, go).



GUIDE TO EVACUATION LEVELS

DURING AN EMERGENCY, RESIDENTS COULD BE ASKED TO EVACUATE. IT IS IMPORTANT TO KNOW THE TERMS USED BEFORE AND DURING AN EVACUATION.

LEVEL 1 BE READY



Time to firm up evacuation plans, pack necessities, and check on neighbors who may need assistance.

Residents should:

- Be aware of the danger in their area.
- Monitor emergency services and local media for information.
- Sign up for emergency alerts to receive up-to-date information.
- Plan how to evacuate if they have health or mobility issues, small children or animals/pets.



LEVEL 2 BE SET



Residents should:

- Be prepared to leave with little notice.
- Pack up important papers, pets and prescriptions.
- Assemble emergency kit including radio and flashlight.
- Evacuate family members with special considerations.



LEVEL 3 GO NOW



LEAVE NOW. You are in immediate danger.
CHECK MEDIA for more information.



SHELTER IN PLACE

Reasons to shelter in place

- Unable to leave your home, care facility or vehicle
- Chemical, biological or radiological contaminants released into the environment (Poor Air quality)
- Might be the safest place

Action Items

- Listen to instructions on the news/radio
- Gather disaster supplies and turn on the radio/news
- Don't forget your pets



EXERCISE YOUR PLAN

Official Participant



Join Us

in the
World's Largest
Earthquake Drill.



DROP!



COVER!



HOLD ON!

October 17, 2024

**Shake
Out**[™]

Register at ShakeOut.org



PERSONAL PREPAREDNESS



Build a Kit

- Go-Kit
- Car Go-Kit
- 14 days prepared



Store Water

- CDC recommendation
- Alternative water supply
- Life Straw (1300 gallons)



Who has their own kit?

- What makes it personal to you and your family?



KIT ESSENTIALS

Build a Go Kit

- Non-perishable food
- Eating utensils, can opener
- Flashlight, radio and batteries
- First Aid Kit
- Cash- small bills
- Clothes and comfortable shoes
- Important documents
- Filter mask
- Mobile device charger
- Sleeping bag
- Hygiene supplies
- Pet supplies



KIT ESSENTIALS

Build a Go Kit

- Thirty days of medication
- Extra assistive items
 - Cane or eyeglasses
- Consider dietary restrictions
- Batteries to back-up power dependent devices

Prepare Key Documents

- Identification
- Financial and legal papers
- List of medical information



BEING PREPARED ALLOWS FIRST
RESPONDERS TO FOCUS ON
THOSE MOST IN NEED.

HELP EACH OTHER



Ensure your family is safe



Check on your neighbors

- Access and Functional Needs
- Children home alone
- Pets



GOLDEN HOUR

FIRST 60 MINUTES POST DISASTER



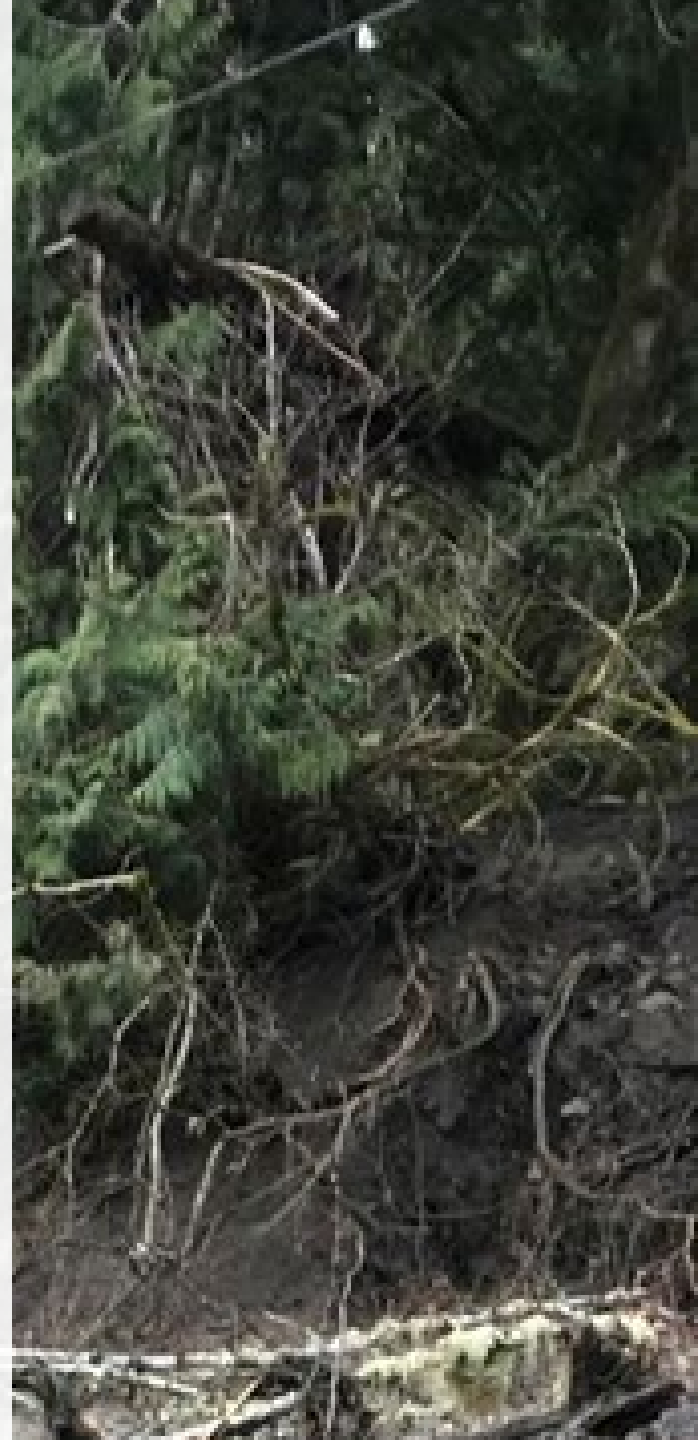
911 and first responders



Rapid intervention



YOU become the first responder



IF WE CAN'T REACH YOU
WE CAN'T ALERT YOU

PCALERT!
EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SERVICE



SIGN UP FOR THIS FREE SERVICE AT
www.piercecountywa.gov/ALERT
or text PCALERT to 888-777



SIGN UP FOR ALERTS

- Emergency Mass Notification System
- For people who live and work in Pierce County
- Receive alerts on a landline, cell phone, text or email
- Monitored by our 24/7 Duty Officer



PIERCE COUNTY ALERT

Opt in list:

- Emergency Alerts
- Major Road Closures
- Public Safety Alerts
- Severe Weather Warnings
- Special Event Information
- Utility Notifications

OTHER ALERTING SYSTEMS

- CODE RED
 - City of Tacoma, Lakewood, University Place, Steilacoom, Bonney Lake, Buckley, Carbonado, Orting, Puyallup, Sumner, Wilkeson
- Washington State Alerts (WEA)
- USGS: Shake Alert
- Outdoor Sirens
- Social Media
- Radio, Television, NOAA Weather Radio



YOU ARE THE
MOST
IMPORTANT
RESOURCE!





Pierce County
Emergency Management

QUESTIONS?

Preparedness Division

PCDEMO Outreach@piercecountywa.gov

Front Desk: (253) 798-6595



2. ALERT TYPE(S)

Emergency ALERTS may be sent out 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Signing up for ALERTS automatically registers you for county-wide and location specific ALERTS.

Community ALERTS are non-emergency notifications. Community ALERTS you may receive are listed below.

SEVERE WEATHER

UTILITY NOTIFICATIONS

MAJOR ROAD CLOSURE

PUBLIC SAFETY

SPECIAL EVENTS

3. CHOOSE LOCATIONS

This will let us know what area to ALERT you about if there is an emergency. Must be within the boundaries of Pierce County.

ADDRESS 1

CITY

ZIP

ADDRESS 2

CITY

ZIP

ADDRESS 3

CITY

ZIP

ADDRESS 4

CITY

ZIP

ADDRESS 5

CITY

ZIP

MAIL TO

Pierce County Emergency Management
2501 South 35th St., Suite D
Tacoma, WA 98409-7405



SIGN UP FOR ALERT!



ONLINE



BY TEXT



BY MAIL



BY PHONE

(SEE REVERSE FOR ADDITIONAL SIGN UP INFORMATION)

YOU CHOOSE HOW
AND WHERE YOU
WANT TO RECEIVE
EMERGENCY
INFORMATION FOR
PIERCE COUNTY.

- 1. Choose which devices will receive alerts.**
- 2. Choose up to 5 locations** (within Pierce County) you want to be notified about emergency alerts.

PCALERT!
EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SERVICE



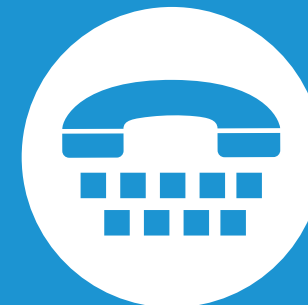
SIGN UP NOW AT
www.piercecountywa.gov/ALERT
or text **PCALERT** to **888-777**



Pierce County Emergency Management
2501 South 35th St., Suite D
Tacoma, WA 98409-7405

Phone: 253-798-6595
Facebook: /PierceCountyEM
Twitter: @PierceCo

**SEE SOMETHING,
SAY SOMETHING...**



PCALERT!
EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SERVICE

IF WE CAN'T
REACH YOU
**WE CAN'T
ALERT YOU**



IF WE CAN'T REACH YOU **WE CAN'T ALERT YOU.**

WHAT IS THE PIERCE COUNTY ALERT SYSTEM?

A FREE system that allows you to sign up and receive notifications about emergencies that may affect the locations that concern you. This service allows fire, police, and other agencies handling emergency response to send out accurate and up-to-date information to residents.

HOW OFTEN WILL I RECEIVE ALERTS?

Generally, non-life threatening alerts will be sent to email only. Alerts that pose a higher threat to the community or cause significant adverse conditions (major traffic impacts/road closures/extreme weather alerts) may be sent via email and text.

Alerts that pose a significant risk to life and/or property will be sent to all of the devices you have chosen.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

The Pierce County ALERT service is free, however, you may incur charges from your cell provider.

WILL MY INFORMATION BE SHARED WITH OTHERS?

No. The information that you provide will be used for emergency purposes only. We cannot give or sell your information to any vendor or other organizations.

HOW DO I SIGN UP?



www.piercecountywa.gov/ALERT



Fill out the form on the right and mail to
Pierce County Emergency Management
2501 South 35th St., Suite D
Tacoma, WA 98409-7405



In all caps, text PCALERT to 888-777
We will send you a link with information and registration.



Call 253-798-6595

MAIL-IN SIGN UP

Please fill out one form per family member.

First Name

Last Name

Language Preference

1. CHOOSE DEVICE(S)

We can send ALERTS via email, text, phone/mobile or TTY/TTD device.

Add up to two contacts for each option below.

DEVICE	CONTACT INFO
EMAIL	_____
TEXT	_____
PHONE/ MOBILE	_____
TTY/TTD	_____

▶ ALERTS & LOCATIONS ON BACK

YOU CAN ALSO SIGN UP ONLINE AT
www.piercecountywa.gov/ALERT

